

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace the previous version, and the listing of claims:

Listing of Claims

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) A document feeder to be disposed above a platen of an image reading apparatus, comprising:

a sheet feed stacker disposed above the platen for stacking an original,

transporting means disposed above the platen adjacent to the sheet feed stacker for transporting the original from the sheet feed stacker to a predetermined position on the platen,

a sheet discharge stacker disposed above the sheet feed stacker for storing the original transported from the transporting means,

a transporting guide disposed between the sheet feed stacker and the transporting means, and between the sheet discharge stacker and the transporting means for guiding the original,

drive means connected to the transporting means for driving the same and capable of rotating in forward and reverse directions,

feeder means disposed adjacent to the sheet feed stacker for feeding the original from the sheet feed stacker to the transporting means, and

interconnecting means disposed between the sheet feed stacker and the sheet discharge stacker, said sheet feed stacker and said sheet discharge stacker being pivotally arranged to enlarge a rear space between the sheet feed stacker and the sheet discharge stacker at a side adjacent to the transporting guide so that when the sheet discharge stacker is rotated, the interconnecting means

is actuated to push a forward end of the sheet feed stacker in a direction away from the feeder means,

wherein said feeder means includes a feed roller for drawing an uppermost original on the sheet feed stacker and a rotating member, said sheet feed stacker having urging means for pressing the forward end thereof against the rotating member, said transporting means having a transport belt for transporting the original ~~and vacuum means for sucking the sheet toward the transport belt~~, said sheet discharge stacker being supported on a frame rotatably around a forward end thereof in a sheet feeding direction, said sheet feed stacker being supported on the frame rotatably around a rear end thereof in the sheet feeding direction, said interconnecting means having a cam member provided between the sheet discharge stacker and the sheet feed stacker.

6. (Previously presented) A document feeder according to claim 5, wherein said cam member includes a rotational cam with a rotational shaft so that when the sheet discharge stacker is rotated by a predetermined angle, the rotational cam is pushed by the sheet discharging stacker to thereby move the sheet feed stacker away from the feed roller.

7-13. (canceled)

14. (Currently amended) An image reading apparatus comprising:  
a platen for placing an original thereon,  
photoelectric converting means disposed adjacent to the platen for reading the original on the platen, and  
the document feeder according to claim ~~4~~ 5, disposed on the platen.

15-21. (Canceled)